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# Starks, Somerset County, Maine, Clerk's Town Meeting Records, 1795-1800

Starks (Me.)

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## **Starks, Somerset County, Maine**

**Transcribed July, 1997 to August, 1998  
(Unedited)**

### **The Incorporation Act AD 1795**

#### **Commonwelth of Masechusets**

**Page 1**

In the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Ninty five.

An act to Incorporate the plantation called Lower Sandy River in the County of Lincoln into a town by the name of Starks.

Be it enacted by the Senate and house of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same that the following discribed tract of land lying on the west side of Kennebeck River, begining on the west bank of said river in the north line of the plymouth clame, thence runing west in the said north line six miles, thence south six miles, thence east about six miles to Norigewock west line, thence north on the west line of Norigewock to Kennebeck River, and continuing notherly by said river on the west bank thereof to the first mentioned bounds together with the Inhabitants thereon by, and the same hereby are incorporated into a town by the name of Starks, and the said town is hereby vested with all the powrs priveleges & immunities which other towns within this common welth do or may by law enjoy.

and be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that Samuella Weston be and he hereby is authorised to issue his warrant directed to some (?) suitable inhabitant of said town requiring him to warn a meeting of the inhabitants of said town at such time and place as shall be appointed in said warrant.

**Page 2**

**March 30 AD 1795**

at a Legal meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Starks pursuant to the foregoing warrant voted as follows viz

- 1ly, Chose Jonathan Williamson moderator to Govern sd meeting
- 2ly, Chose James Waugh town Clerk and Sworn into office by the moderator of said meeting
- 3ly, Chose James Waugh Oliver Willson and Joseph Grenlef Selectmen and Sworn accordingly
- 4ly, Chose Thomas Waugh tresurer (treasurer)-Sworn accordingly
- 5ly, Chose Jonathan Williamson Nathan Wood and Samson Sheaf assessors of taxes -Sworn accordingly
- 6ly, Voted to vendue the collection of taxes and bid of by Nicholas Kimball at three pence half peny on the pound and chose Nicholes Kimball Collector of taxes and Sworn into office accordingly
- 7ly, Chose Nichols Kimball Constable and Sworn accordingly
- 8ly, Chose Benjamin Arnold, Ruben Gray, John Pumry and Thomas Haywood Surveyors of highways on the easterly side of Sandy River and Sworn into office accordingly
- 9ly, Chose Benjamin Hillton, Luke Sawyer, Peter Holbrook, Samuella Williamson, John Grenlef and Josiah Dutton Surveyors of highways on the westerly side of Sandy River and Sworn accordingly
- 10th Chose Jonathan Williamson and James Waugh Surveyors of Lumber and Sworn accordingly
- 11th Chose George Nickles and Joseph Grenlef fence viewars (viewers) and Sworn accordingly
- 12th Chose Thomas Lovejoy, Caleb Witham, Benjamin Arnold, John Pomry, Samuella Williamson and David Leeman tythingmen and Sworn accordingly
- 13th Chose Thomas Haywood and Nathan Wood a fish commity and Sworn accordingly

The foregoing is a true record of the votes passed at the fore going meeting

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

**Page 3**

Lincoln ss - to Nichols Kimball Constable of the town of Starks in said County,

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusetts to notify and warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Starks qualified by law to vote in town meetings to meet and assemble at the dweling house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Thursday the Sevententh Day of this September at ten of the Clock in the four noon to act on the following articles viz

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly To see if the town will except a road laid out on each side of Sandy River through the town's allso road laid out east and west through the midle of the town; allso one road laid out north and south through the midle of the town; and any other roads that may be laid out and laid before the town at sd meeting
- 3ly To see if the town will grant a sum of money to be expended on the highways and town ways this year
- 4ly To see if the town will grant a sum of money to hire schools this present year
- 5ly To see if the town will grant a sum of money to hire any preaching this present year
- 6ly To see if the town will grant a sum of money to defray the necessary charges of said town the present year
- 7ly To see if the town will act on an adress sent to the town by Portland Convention requesting this town to send in there vots to William Gorham of Portland before the third Wedensday in October next for and against a seperation from Massechusetts and to act on any other busness that shall be thought proper when met

Given under our hands and seals at Starks this second day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninty five

James Waugh		Selectmen
Oliver Willson		of
Joseph Grenlef		said town

Lincoln ss - September 4 AD 1795 purcuent to the within warrant I have notified and warned the inhabitents of said town qualifid as therein expressed to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned - Nicholas Kimball: Constable

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

**Page 4**

**September 17 AD 1795**

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Starks pursuent to the foregoing Warrant voted as follows viz

- 1ly Chose Benjamin young moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly Voted to except a road on the west side of Sandy River agreeable to the return of the Selectmen as follows viz began on the north line of Starks and the south line of Anson at a beach tree marked and on Joseph Brays south line and run south and be east 130 rods from thence south and be east five degrees east 48 rods from thence south southeast 68 rods from thence southwest and be south 70 rods from thence south and be west 5 degrees west 260 rods, thence south and be east 140 rods

from thence south 120 rods from thence south southwest 120 rods, from thence southwest and be south 32 rods from thence southeast and be south 40 rods from thence southeast and be east 40 rods from thence southeast and be south 40 rods from thence southeast and be south 40 rods from thence southeast and be east 68 rods from thence southeast and be south 40 rods thence southeast 38 rods to Peter Holbrooks road thence southwest 220 rods, thence southwest and be west 82 rods, thence west northwest 34 rods thence, northwest and be west 66 rods thence, west northwest 20 rods thence, west 20 rods thence, southwest 14 rods thence, south southwest 24 rods to a stump marked near Lemons Stream thence, southwest acrost Lemons Stream 52 rods thence west and be north 70 rods thence, southwest and be west 54 rods, thence, southwest 50 rods, thence west and be north 60 rods to the river bank, thence about northwest up the river on the bank there of 212 rods, thence northwest and be west 36 rods, thence south and be west 68 rods, thence and be west 88 rods, thence west 72 rods, thence southwest 46 rods, thence southwest and be west 20 rods, thence southwest and be west 40 rods, thence south and be west 20 rods, thence south southwest 28 rods, thence southwest 16 rods, thence south and be west 28 rods, thence south 60 rods, thence south southwest 100 rods, thence south 40 rods, thence south and be west 86 rods to the south line of the town on Jacob Lemorm lot, said road to be four rods wide and to ly one half on each side the above survey.

Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

James Waugh }  
Oliver Willson } Selectmen  
Joseph Grenleaf }

**Page 5**

Allso a road on the southerly side of Sandy River as follows viz began on the south line of Starks on Benjamin Arnold land Ninty two rods from Sandy River and run North northeast 126 rods, thence north 160 rods, thence north north east 40 rods, thence north 48 rods, thence northeast and be east 52 rods, thence east and be north 140 rods, thence northeast 16 rods, thence north northeast 60 rods, thence east 54 rods to the bank of Sandy River at Joseph Greenlef, thence down the river on the bank thereof 140 rods, thence southeast and be east 28 rods, thence east and be north 52 rods, thence south and be east 20 rods, thence northeast and be east 44 rods, thence east and be north 128 rods, thence east 45 rods, thence east southeast 60 rods, thence east and be south 34 rods, thence northeast and be east 24 rods, thence east 20 rods, thence northeast and be north 80 rods, thence northeast and be east 310 rods, to Norigwalk west line, thence north on the dividing line between Noridgwalk and Starks said road to ly all in Starks 500 rods, thence north and be east 100 rods thence north 28 rods, thence northwest and be north 52 rods, thence northwest 80 rods, thence northwest and be west 160 rods, to an islenut tree marked at Thomas Haywoods landing at Sandy River, thence acros the river to Oliver Willsons landing, thence north and be east 40 rods, thence seven degr east 108 rods, thence northwest five degr north 80 rods to Moses Bickfords land where it meets the town road on the west side of Sandy River.

The above road to be four rods wide and to ly one half on each side the above survey excepting where it lyes on Noridgewalk line the whole road to in Starks.

The above road surveyed 28 May AD 1795

Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

James Waugh }  
Oliver Willson } Selectmen  
Joseph Grenleaf }

- 3ly Voted to except a road from the west line of Starks to the middle of the town agreeable to the return of the Selectmen as follows viz began at the three mile tree on the west line of Starks and run east three mile to the middle of the town to a beach tree marked and cornerd. Said road four rods wide and to ly one half on each side the above said course.

Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk  
 James Waugh }  
 Oliver Willson } Selectmen  
 Joseph Grenleaf }

- 4ly Excepted another road agreeable to the return of the Selectmen as follows viz began at the middle of the town on the east end of the above road and run easterly 158 rods to the dividing line between Luke Sawyer and Hathan Wood or the west corner between lots No. five and seven and from thence east on the dividing line between lots No. five and seven to the river road. Said road to be four rods wide and to ly two rods on each side the above said course.

Allso one other road excepted agreeable to the return made by the Selectmen as follows viz beginning at the middle of the town at a beech stump and the corner between James Waugh, Jr. and John M. Datton and run north about thirteen degrees west on the dividing line between said Waugh and Dutton to the north end of there lots and run on the same course so as to mesure two hundred and fifty rods from the middle of the town and from thence north and be west 342 rods, thence north northwest 132 rods, thence north and be west 30 rods, thence north 120 rods to the north line of Starks. The above road to be four rods wide and to ly one half on each side the above courses.

September 5 AD 1795

Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk  
 Oliver Willson } Selectmen  
 Joseph Grenleaf }

Excepted a road from Fairbrother to the County road on the oak hill agreeable the selectmens return as follows viz began at a hemlock tree standing near Fairbrothers saw mill and marked and from thence south 20 degrees east 40 rods, thence south forty degrees east 36 rods, thence south 30 degrees east 110 rods, thence south 50 degrees east 34 rods, thence south 60 degrees east 40 rods, thence south 41 degrees east 48 rods, thence south 15 degrees east 12 rods, thence south 30 degrees east 14 rods, thence south 45 degrees east 100 rods, thence south 10 degrees east 18 rods, thence south 40 degrees east 28 rods to the east line of Starks and to the County road. Said road four rods wide and to ly two rods on each side the above said courses.

Allso one other road as follows viz began at the town road on Robert Taylors lot and run southwest and be south 60 rods, thence south southwest 60 rods, thence south 88 rods, thence southwest and be south 126 rods, thence west and be south 72., thence southwest 84 rods to the south line of the town. Said rod laid out four rods wide and to ly two rods on each side of the above said line, the above roads are all excepted.

Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

James Waugh }

Oliver Willson } Selectmen  
Joseph Grenleaf }

- 5ly Voted three hundred and thirty three dollars to be expended on the town ways at our shillens pr  
(per) day for each pair of oxen
- 6ly Voted fifty dollers to be laid out in schooling this year
- 7ly Voted sixty dollers to defray the necessary charges of the town this present year
- 8ly Voted to dismis the seventh article in the warrant

attested James Waugh, Town Clerk

**Page 8**

Lincoln ss - to Nichols Kimball Constable of the town of Starks in said County of Lincoln

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusets to notify and worn the free holders and other inhabitants of the town of Starks and qualified by law to vote in town meetings to meet and assemble at the dwelling house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Monday the fourteenth day of March reset at ten of the clock in the four noon then and there to act on the following articles viz

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly To chose all other town officers that towns are impowred and required to chose in the months of March or Aprilee annually
- 3ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to repair and amend the highways and town ways this year
- 4ly To se if the town will establish the School Districts in said town as divided by the selectmen or act there on (thereon) as they shall think proper
- 5ly To see what method the town will take to procure schooling the insuing year
- 6ly To see what sum of money the town will vote to hire schooling the infuing year
- 7ly To see what sum of money the town will vote to defray the necesery charges of the town the insuing year
- 8ly To see what method the town will take to warn town meeting the insuing year
- 9ly To see what method the town will take to setle the boundary line between Starks and Noridgwalk
- 10th To see if the town will vote any money to hire preaching the insuing year
- 11th To see if the town will vote that the delinquency of the highway taxes in the year 1795 shall be worked out the insuing year under the lore of the old surveyors
- 12th To see if the town will allow the accounts that shall be exhibited against said town

**PAGE INSERT**

Personally appeared James Waugh and took the oath required by law to quallify him to discharge the duties of town clerk in the town of Starks for the year insuing and until another is chosen and sworn in his sted before me.

Starks March 5th AD 1821 Thos M. J\_\_\_\_\_ Justice of the Peace

**Page 9**

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doing thereon to one of us the subscribers on or before the day and time above mentioned.

Given under our hands and seals at Starks this twenty seventh day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninty six

James Waugh }	Selectmen
Oliver Willson }	of
Joseph Grenleaf }	Starks

Lincoln ss February 27 AD 1796 pursuant to the within warrent I have notified and warned the inha of said town - qualified as therein expressed to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Nichols Kimball: Constable  
Copy attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

### March 14 AD 1796

at a legal meeting of the inhabitents of the town of Starks pursuant to the fore going warrant votes as follows viz

- 1ly Chose James Waugh moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly Chose James Waugh town clerk sworn acordingly
- 3ly Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and John Grenlef, Selectmen
- 4ly Voted the Selectmen be assessors of taxes the year insuing sworn acordingly
- 5ly Chose Stephen Williamson town tresurer sworn acordingly
- 6ly Voted the collector of taxes be vandued t the loest bid off by Benjamen Hillton at five cents and two thirds of a cent on the pound and chose collector of tasces sworn acordingly
- 7ly Chose Benjamen Hillton Constable sworn acordingly
- 8ly Chose Caleb Witham Samuell Williamson, Stephen Williamson, Luke Sawyer, Benjamen Hillton, Benjamen Young, Nichols Kimball, John Pumroy, James Waugh and William Grenlef, surveyors of highways, all the above named persons sworn acordingly
- 9ly Chose Jonathan Williamson and James Waugh surveyors of lumber, sworn acordingly

### Page 10

- 10th Chose George Nickles and Benjamen Young fence viewrs sworn acordingly
- 11th Chose Rufus Sanderson, Joshua Young, Robert Taylor and Joseph Lander tythingmen, sworn accordingly
- 12th Chose Richerd (Richard) Hillton hogreve  
Chose Mathew Williamson hogreve, sworn acordingly (accordingly)
- 13th Chose Reuben Gray pound keeper, sworn acordingly (accordingly)
- 14th Voted the Selectmen be a school commity (committee)
- 15th Chose John Pumroy sealer of waits (weights) and mesurs (measures), sworn acordingly (accordingly)
- 16th Voted seven hundred dollers to be expended on the highways and town ways the insuing year at one doller pr day for each man and sixty seven cents pr day for each pair of oxen and seventeen cents pr day for each plow

Division of the town of Starks into school districts

- 17th Voted first dstrict begining at the north line of said town and extending southerly to the north line of Lot No. 4 on the west side of Sandy River and on the east side of the river to the south line of said Lot No. 4
- 2 2d District from said north line of said Lot No. 4 to the south line of Lot No. 8 on the west side the river and on the east side of the river including Lot No. 87
- 3 from the last mentioned bounds including both sides the river as far as the mouth of Lemons Stream

- 4 from the mouth of Lemons Stream including all on the southerly side of the river to the south line of the town
- 5 from the mouth of Lemons Stream including all on the notherly side of the river to the south line of the town
- 18th Voted two hundred dollers to be laid out in schooling the insuing year
- 19th Voted sixty dollers to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing
- 20th Voted that all meetings the insuing year be warned by posting up notifications one at the house of James Waugh one at Benjamin Youngs and one at Joseph Lander
- 21st Voted the Selectmen be a commity to settle the boundary line in dispute between Starks and Noridgwalk
- 22nd Voted that the dilingucey of last years highway taxes be worked out this year under the directions of old surveyors
- 23 Voted to allow the accounts brought in against the town for service in 1795 laying out roads making the taxes & c.

attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

Page 11

1796

Lincoln ss - to Benjamin Hillton Constable of the town of Starks in said county

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusets to notify and warn the male inhabitants of said town and qualified by the constitution to vote for governor lieutenant governor senators and counselors to meet and assemble at the dwelling house of Benjamin Blossoms in said town on Monday the fourth day of Aprilee meet at ten of the clock in the four noon to give in their votes for a governor and lieutenant governor senators and counselors agreable to the Constitution of said Commonwealth

Allso to warn the freeholders and others quallified to vote in town meetings to meet at the above time and place to chose a moderator to govern said meeting.

- 2ly To see if the town will chose a fish commity
- 3ly To see if the town will alter the road on Rufus Sanderson land
- 4ly To see if the town will lay out a road for the benifet of Nethaniell Patten and others to git to the midle of the town and to the river
- Allso one road for Charls Covano to git to the river
- Also one road for Jedediah Prebble and others to git into the road leading to the midle of the town
- Also one road for Joseph Rolf and others leaving to the River Road at Benjamin Hilltons or any other convenient place
- Allso one road from the end of the road on the west side of the river between Nathan Wood and Luke Sawyer to the river and acrost the river and acrost Robert Crosbys land and into the road on the east side of Sandy River
- Allso one road for Josiah Dutton and others leading to the river at Stephen Williamsons or any other place where it may best suit the publick good
- 5ly To see if the town will agree upon and grant a sum of money to git a town stock of military stores as the law dire
- Also to act on any other busnes that shall be thought proper when met hereof fail not and make due return of this warent with your doings thereon to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting
- Given under our hands and seals this sevententh day of March AD 1796

James Waugh } Selectmen  
George Sawyer }



Lincoln March 29 AD 1796 pursuant to the within warrent I have notified the inhabitants of said town qualified as therein exprest to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Benjamin Hillton: Constable of said town  
Copy test James Waugh: Town Clerk

at a legal meetings of the inhabitants of the town of Starks pursuant to the foregoing warrant voted as follows viz after meeting Wes opned for governor lieutenant governor sinetors and counselors - the votes being called for by the Selectmen but received none proseded to \_\_\_\_\_ on the town meeting

- 1ly Chose James Waugh moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly Chose Oliver Willson Moses Bickford and Joseph Grenlef fish commity sworn acordingly
- 3ly Dismist (dismissed) Robert Crosby tythingman and chose Nathan Wood to serve in his place sworn acordingly
- 4ly Chose Thomas Lovejoy to be one of the hogreves in the place of Richard Hillton Sworn acordingly
- 5ly Voted that sixty dollers be praised and assessed to purches a town store of powder lad tin kittles and flints for the \_\_\_\_\_

**October 1796**

Lincoln ss to Benjamin Hillton Constable of the town of Starks in said county

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusets to notify and warn the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Starks and quallified by law to vote in town meetings to meet and assemble at the dwelling house of Benjamin Blossoms in said town on Tuesday the twenty fifty day of this present October at one of the clock after noon then and their to act on the following articles

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
  - 2ly To see if the town will raise money to hire Mr. Phynias Randal a few Sabaths preaching
  - 3ly To see if the town will except a road as it is laid out from Benjamin Pattins to the midle of the town
  - 4ly To see if the town will except a road as it is laid out from Joseph Rolfs to Benjamin Hilltons allso any other road that may be laid out and be laid before the town on said day and time of meeting
  - 5ly To see if the town will alter the road between Thomas Fairbrothers and Thomas Haywoods either in part or all the way as it may be laid out nearer the river and laid before the town on said day and time of meeting
  - 6ly To see if the town will abate any persons their poll tax who by reason of old age or infirmity may think they may be abated
- Also to act on any mater or thin that shall be thought proper when met hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doing thereon to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting hereof fail not and make

James Waugh } Selectmen  
George Sawyer }

Lincoln ss October 11th AD 1796 pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the inhabitants of said town qualified as theiron exprest to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Benjamin Hillton: Constable  
a true copy attest James Waugh: Town Clerk

pursuant to the foregoing warrant

- 1ly Chose James Waugh moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly Voted not to raise any money to hire preaching
- 3ly Voted not to except a peace (piece) of a road as it is laid out from Benjamin Pattens to the middle of the town
- 4ly Voted to except the road from Joseph Rolfs to Benjamin Hilltons agreeable to Jonathan Williamsons return begining at Mr. Rolfs east to the senter line at James Bickford thence east 134 rods thence southeast 146 rods, thence south seventy degrees east to the bever dam 100 rods, thence south fifty degrees east 120 rods, thence south 80 degrees east to the road at Mr. Hilltons surveyed by me Jonathan Williamson surveyor  
Voted to except a bridle road acrost Sandy River from the town road at Mathew Williamsons to the town road on the other side of Sandy River and strike the dividing line between Rufus Sanderson and Nathem Fisher and from thence to Joseph Lander Mill to be an open road agreeable to the return began at the town road at Mathew Williamsons and runing north 45 degrees west to the river 70 rods begining on the west side the river and run east 20 rods thence east 16 degrees north 20 rods, thence north 10 degrees west to the road at Mr. Sanderson said road to be four rods wide then began at the road between Mr. Sanderson and Mr. Fish runing northwest on the north side of Sandersons line 380 rods, thence north 10 degrees west 180 rods, thence north 20 degrees west 88 rods, thence north 80 rods, thence north 10 degrees west 118 rods, thence east 10 degrees south 60 rods voted to except a road from the Senter town road to Lander Mill as follows viz, begining at the east and west Senter town road and run north 60 degrees west 150 rods, thence north 82 degrees west 26 rods, thence north 70 degrees west 5 rods said, road four rods wide and to ly two rods on each side of said course
- 5ly Chose a commity of five to join the Selectmen to see whether it is best to alter the town road between fairbrothers and Thomas Haywood but more perticular back of the interval on Benjamin Withams land  
Voted to abate Benjamin Blossoms poll tax

test James Waugh: Town Clerk

# November 1796

Lincoln ss to Benjamin Hillton Constable of the town of Starks in said county

Greeting

You are hereby in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusets to notify and warn the Inhabitants of Starks and qualified as the Constitution requires to vote for representatives of the General Court of this Commonwealth to meet at the house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Monday seventh day of November next at one of the clock in the after noon to give in their votes for one elector of president and vice president in the District which we live in allso all the freeholders and other Inhabitants in said town of Starks and qualified by law to vote in town meeting to meet at the above said time and place

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly To see if the town will except the road as it is altered part or all the way between Thomas Fairbrothers and Thomas Haywoods as it shall be laid before town at the above said meeting allso to act on any other mater or thing that shall be thought proper where met hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your dowings thereon to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting given under our hands and seals at Starks this twenty fourth day of October AD 1796

James Waugh } Selectmen  
George Sawyer }

Lincoln ss October 25 AD 1796 pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of said town qualified as therein exprest t meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Benjamin Hillton: Constable  
Copy attest James Waugh: Town Clerk

**Page 16**

**1796**

pursuant to the foregoing warrant the meeting being opned and the votes for elector of president and vice president being called for but received none the Selectmen and town clerk being present that meeting being disolved proseded to act on the other part of the warrant

1ly Chose James Waugh moderator to govern said meeting  
2ly voted to except the alteration of the town road between Thomas Fairbrothers and Thomas Haywoods as it is laid out by the Selectmen and commity as follows viz began at a hemlock tree in the old road a little to the south of Thomas Fairbrothers and run north ten degr east 70 rods thence north forty degr east 50 rods thence north sixty degr east sixty eight rods thence north seventy five degr east one hundred rods where it comes into the old road at a small brook near the line between William Young and Benjamin Witham from thence notherly in the old road 150 rods to a hemlock marked and from the last mentioned hemlock run north 30 degr west fifty rods from thence north five degr east sixty rods from thence 40 degrees west six rods thence north fifty degr west twelve rods to the interval thence by the side of the interval north twenty degr west ten rods thence north 15 degr west eight rods thence north thirty degr west twelve rods thence north fifty degr west twenty rods to a white pine tree marked and standing on the bank a little back of the lower end of the interval; surveyed by Jonathan Williamson: surveyor

Said road four rods wide and to ly two rods on each side the above corses

Benjamin Young }  
Reuben Gray } Commity  
Jonathan Williamson }

Voted to give up the old road and the above survey to be the town road in \_\_\_\_\_

test James Waugh: Town Clerk

**Page 17**

### **March 1797 Annuell Meeting**

Lincoln ss to Benjamin Hillton constable of the town of Starks in said county

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusetts to notify and warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the town of Starks and qualified by law to vote in town meeting to meet to at the house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Monday the twentieth day of March next at nine of the clock in the four noon to act on the following articles, viz

1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting  
2ly To chose a town clerk, selectmen, assessors of taxes, collectors of taxes and all other town officers that towns are autherised and required by law to chose in the months of March or aprile annually  
3ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to make and repair the highways and town ways the year insuing

- 4ly To see what method the town will take to build school houses  
 5ly To see what sum of money the town will grant for the suport of schools the year insuing and how it shall be laid out  
 6ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing  
 7ly To see if the town will except a road as it is laid out begining at the town road on the dividing line between Luke Sawyer and Nathan Wood run east on the dividing line to the river and up the river on the bank thereof to Joseph Green landing and acrost the river to Robert Crosby land in and acrost said Crosbys land into the town road on the east side of the river  
 8ly To see if the town will allow the accounts that may be brought against the town for service don \_\_\_\_\_ and to transact such other business as shall then and there be thought necessary and expedient fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings their on to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting given under our hands and seals this twenty fourth day of February AD 1797

James Waugh} Selectmen  
 George Sawyer}

**Page 18**

### **1797 Annuell Meeting**

Lincoln ss March 2 AD 1797 pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of said town quallified as therein expressed to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Starks Benjamin Hillton} Constable of  
 Copy attest James Waugh} Town Clerk

- 1ly Pursuent to the foregoing warrant, chose George Sawyer moderator to govern said meeting  
 2ly Chose James Waugh town clerk, sworn accordingly  
 3ly Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and John Grenlef Selectman  
 4ly Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and John Grenlef assessors of taxes for the year insuing, sworn accordingly  
 5ly Chose Stephen Williamson town tresuror, sworn accordingly  
 6ly Chose Reuben Gray Collector of Taxes and Constable sworn accordingly  
 7ly Chose Moses Bickford, Thomas Waugh, Joseph Taylor, Ephream Brown and Ebenezer Grenleaf Surveyors of highways on the west side of the river, and all the above named persons sworn accordingly and Benjamin Young, Reuben Gray, William Young and James Waugh, Surveyors of highways on the east side of Sandy River, sworn accordingly  
 Chose James Waugh Jr and James Bickford Surveyors of highways back forom the river, sworn accordingly  
 Chose James Waugh Surveyor of lumber  
 Chose Mathew Williamson, Robert Crosby and Samuell Williamson tythingmen and all sworn accordingly  
 Chose James Waugh and Joseph Grenlef fence viewers and sworn accordingly  
 Chose Peter Holbrook pound keeper sworn accordingly  
 Chose Richard Pumroy, Jonathan Williamson Jr and James Waugh Jr hogreves and sworn accordingly  
 Chose Luke Sawyer and William Grenlef a fish commity sworn accordingly  
 Chose Benjamin Yound, Nathan Wood and Oliver Willson commity of accounts (accounts) for the year insuing  
 8ly Voted four hundred dollers be assessed and expended on the highway and townways the year insuing at one doller pr day for each man and fifty cents pr day for pair of oxen

- 9ly Voted that each School District build their own school houses by a tax granted in each School District for that purpose
- 10ly Voted that all the Inhabitants from Rufus Sandersons uper line down to Lemons Stream together with the Pattens and all others on Lemons Stream, be set off as one School District
- 11ly Voted Benjamin Young, Samuell Williamson, Nichols Kimball, John Pumroy, Thomas Waugh and Benjamin Hillton be a school commity to visit the schools the ensuing year
- 12ly Voted James Bickford, Henry Bickford and Joseph Roff shall have the privilege to take their own school taxes and lay it out in a school by themselves  
Voted two hundred dollers for the suport of schools in town the year insuing to be divided on the districts acordingly to the No. of schollers in each District  
Voted to raise sixty dollers to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing  
Voted to dismis the seventh article in the warrant

test James Waugh } Town Clerk

**Page 20**

### **1798 Annuell Meeting**

Lincoln ss to Reuben Gray constable of the town of Starks in said county

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusetts to notify and warn the freeholders and other Inhabitants of said town and qualified by law to vote in town meetings, viz, such as pay to one single tax besides the poll or polls a sum equal to two thirds of a single poll tax, to meet and assemble at the house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Monday the second day of aprile reset at ten of the clock in the fore noon to act on the following articles viz

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly To chose a town clerk, selectmen, assessors of taxes, a constable, a collector of taxes and all other town officers that towns within this Commonwealth are impowered and directed to chose in the months of March or aprile annually
- 3ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to make and repair the highways and town ways, the insuing year
- 4ly To see what sum of money the town will grant for the suport of schools the year insuing
- 5ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing to see if the town will except a road from Nethaniel Pattons to the senter road leding to Joseph Lander Mill as it is laid out by the selectmen  
allso to transact any other busness that shall be thought necessary and expediant when met, hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings their on to one of us subscribrs (subscribers) on or before said day and time of meeting  
Given under our hands and seals at Starks this sixteenth day of March AD 1798

of James Waugh } Selectmen

George Sawyer } Starks  
John Grenlef }

Lincoln ss March 19 AD 1798 pursuent to the within warrant I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of said town qualifid as theirin expressed to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Reuben Gray: Constable of said town  
Copy attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

### 1798 Annuell Meeting

pursuant to the foregoing warrant

- 1ly Chose James Waugh moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly Chose James Waugh town clerk and sworn accordingly
- Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and Timothy Barns selectmen
- Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and Timothy Barns assessors of taxes for the year insuing sworn accordingly
- Voted to vendue the collection of taxes to the lowest bider (bidder) bid off by Royal Dutton at two cents on the doller
- Chose Royal Dutton collector of taxes, sworn accordingly
- Voted to except Luke Sawyer and Nichols Kimball said collectors bondsman
- Chose Royal Dutton constable sworn accordingly
- Chose George Niekles, Thomas Waugh, William Gott, Samuell Williamson and John Grenlef surveyors of highways on the notherly (northerly) side of the river and all sworn accordingly
- Chose Benjamin Young, Nichols Kimball, Benjamin Witham and James Waugh surveyors of highways on the southerly side of the river and all sworn accordingly
- Chose Jedediah Prebble, Benjamin Taylor and James Bickford surveyors of highways back from the river and all sworn accordingly
- Chose James Waugh and Benjamin Young surveyors of Lumber sworn accordingly
- Chose Benjamin Young and Oliver Willson fence viewers sworn accordingly
- Chose Ephream Brown, Joseph Green and David Sterry tythingmen sworn accordingly
- Chose Luke Sawyer and William Grenlef fish Commity sworn accordingly
- Chose Ebenezer Grosby, Ebenezer Williamson and Alven Lander hogreves sworn accordingly
- Chose Benjamin Young, Nathan Wood, and Timothy Barns a comity of accounts

### 1798 Annuell Meeting

Chose Thomas Haywood, Luke Sawyer, John Pumroy, Samuell Williamson, Benjamin Young, Nichols Kimball, James Bickford and James Waugh Jr a school commity

Chose Stephen Williamson town tresuror sworn accordingly

Voted to set of Benjamin Taylor, Joseph Dutton, John Pumroy Jr James Waugh Jr, Nathaniel Patten, Benjamin Patten, Sterry Lander, Pribble, William Grenlef, Richard Pumroy and others on and near Lemons Stream above Pattens to be in one school

Voted to except a road as it is laid out by the Selectmen and surveyd by Jonathan Williamson from Benjamin Pattens to the senter road leading to Landers mill as follows, viz from Mr Pattens house runing north forty polls from thence north twenty degr east thirty polls, from thence north to the town road, fifty polls surveyed by me Jonathan Williamson; surveyor said road four rods wide and to ly two rods on each sid of said courses

Voted five hundred dollers to be expended on the highways and townways the year insuing at one doller pr day for each man and sixty seven cents pr day for each pair of oxen

Voted two hundred dollers for the suport of schools in town the insuing year; the money to be divided equally on the No. of schollers and each District draw their money accordingly to the number of schollers in each District

Voted forty dollers to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing

Voted to build a pound and to stand on or near the line between Joseph and Nethaniel Taylor, bid of by Henry Bickford Jr to build for seven dollers and fifty cents to be built of logs cut thirty foot long and to be laid up eight foot high with a good and sufficient gate, said pound to be don and redy (ready) for the towns use by the first day of July next.

Voted Stephen Williamson poundkeeper

Voted swine shall run at large the year insuing being yoked and ringed according to law

Voted to pay Reuben Gray two cents on the dollar for his collection of taxes for the year A.D. 1797  
Voted that the surveyors of highways be empowered to collect at taxes committed to them to be expended on the highways

Copy attest James Waugh, Town Clerk

**Page 23**

**1798 October Meeting**

Lincoln ss.

To Royal Dutton Constable of the town of Starks in said County

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the male Inhabitants of the said town of Starks of twenty one years of age and upwards having a freehold Estate within the Commonwealth of the annual income of three pounds or any Estate of the value of sixty pounds to meet at Benjamin Blossoms on taxes of the ninth day of October next at one of the clock in the afternoon, to give in their votes for a delegate to meet in convention at Hallowell on fourth Tuesday of October aforesaid for the purpose of considering the expediency of a division of the County of Lincoln into two counties, and to ascertain and agree upon such dividing line as shall in their opinion under a consideration of all circumstances contribute (contribute) most to the general interest and convenience of said County and Inhabitants thereof fail not and make return of this warrant and your doings thereon to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting

Given under our hands and seals this twenty first day of September at Starks, A.D. 1798

Timothy T. Barns	}	Selectmen
James Waugh	}	of
George Sawyer	}	Starks

pursuant to the within warrant I have duly notified the freeholders and other Inhabitants of the said town of Starks qualified to vote in the choice of representatives to assemble and meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

Royal Dutton	}	Constable
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A true copy test James Waugh; Town Clerk

**Page 24**

**1798 and 1799**

pursuant to the foregoing warrant chose George Sawyer moderator to govern said meeting  
Chose James Waugh delegate to meet in convention at Hallowell on the fourth Tuesday of October A.D. 1798 for the purpose of considering the expediency of a division of the County of Lincoln into two counties

Test (attest) James Waugh } Town Clerk

=====

S) Lincoln ss. to Royal Dutton Constable of the town of Starks in said County Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to notify and warn the male Inhabitants of said town of Starks being twenty one years of age and upwards having a freehold Estate within the Commonwealth of the annual income of three pounds or any estate to the value of sixty pounds to

meet at the house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Monday the first day of aprile next at nine of the clock in the fournoon to give in there (their votes for a governor; lieutenant governor, senator and senator agreeable to the Constitution of said Commonwealth hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings theiron to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting

Given under our hands and seals this eleventh day of March A.D. 1799

James Waugh	}	
Timothy T. Barns	}	Selectmen
George Sawyer	}	

Starks March 26 A.D. 1799

pursuent to the above warrant I have duly notified and warned the Inhabitants of the town of Starks qualified as above mentioned to meet at the above time and place and for the purposes above mentioned

Royal Dutton	}	Constable
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Test James Waugh: Town Clerk

**Page 25**

#### **1799 Aprilee**

pursuent to the foregoing warrant votes for the following persons were given in counted and sorted and record and declaration thereof made as by the Constitution is directed viz

for increase sumner Esqr governor thirty nine votes

Senators and Counselors

for Henry Derborn Esqr thirty eight votes

for Elexander Campbell Esqr twenty five votes

Test James Waugh: Town Clerk

**Page 26**

#### **1799 Annuell Meeting**

S) Lincoln ss. to Royal Dutton Constable of the town of Starks  
in said County

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusets to notify and warn the free holders and other Inhabitants of said town qualified by law to vose in town meetings to meet and assemble at Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Monday the first day of aprile next at ten o clock in the fournoon to act on the following articles viz

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly To chose a town clerk, selectmen, assessors of taxes, constable, collector of taxes, and all other town officers that towns within this Commonwealth are impowered and directed by law to chose in the months of March or Aprilee annually
- 3ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to make and repair the highways and town ways the year insuing
- 4ly To see what sum of money the town will grant for the suport of schooling the year insuing and how it shall be laid out
- 5ly To see what sum of money the town will grant to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing



- 6ly To see if the town will except a road as it is laid out from the town road on the westerly side Sandy river runing easterly to Sandy River acrost (across) the River and on John Pumroy southerly line into the road on the easterly side Sandy River
- 7ly To see if the town will except a road as laid out from the town road notherly side of Sandy River acrost the river and into the town road southerly side Sandy River near Joseph Grenlef, allso to transact such other busnes as shall be thought necessary when met hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting
- Given under our hands and seals at Starks this eleventh day of March A.D. 1799

James Waugh	}	
Timothy T. Barns	}	
George Sawyer	}	Selectmen

A true copy attest James Waugh: Town Clerk

**Page 27**

### **1799 Aprilee Annuell Meeting**

Starks March the 26 A.D. 1799 pursuant to the within warrant I have duly notified and warned the Inhabitants of the town of Starks to meet at the time and place and for the purpose within mentioned:

Royal Dutton}	Constable
Copy attest James Waugh:	Town Clerk

pursuant to the foregoing warrant firstly chose George Saywer (Sawyer) moderator to govern said meeting

- 2ly Chose James Waugh town clerk, sworn acordingly
- 3ly Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and John McLaughlen selectmen
- Chose James Waugh, George Sawyer and John McLaughlen assessors of taxes sworn accordingly
- Chose Royal Dutton collector of taxes sworn acordingly voted to pay Royal Dutton four pr cent for collecting
- Chose Royal Dutton Constable sworn acordinly
- Chose George Sawyer town tresuror sworn acordingly
- Chose Thomas Haywood, William Young, Jonathan Williamson and Samson Sheaf surveyors of highways on the southren (southern) side of the river and all sworn acordingly
- Chose Isaac Young Jr John Chapman, Henry Bickford Jr Nathan Wood and George Nickles surveyors of highways on the notherly side of the river and all sworn acordingly
- Chose James Bickford, William Grenlef and Joseph tax-co surveyors of highways back from the river and sworn acordingly
- Chose Oliver Willson, Joseph Young and Samuell Nye tythingmen Oliver Willson & Samll Nye sworn acordingly
- Chose Robert Taylor and Joseph Lander tythingmen sworn acordingly
- Chose Stephen Williamson poundkeeper, sworn acordingly
- Chose Oliver Willson and Benjamin Young fence viewers and sworn accordingly;
- Chose Daniel Grenlef, Jabish Crocker and John Witham hogreves, Daniel Grenlef sworn acordingly
- Chose Nathan Wood Benjamin Young and Oliver Willson, commity of accounts to setle (settle) all demands against the town for service in the years A.D. 1798 & 1799

**Page 28**

### **1799 Annuell Meeting**

Chose Stephen Williamson Benjamin Young and Oliver Willson Surveyors of lumber and all sworn accordingly

Voted to raise one hundred dollars to be expended in schooling (schooling) the insuing year and that each school district shall have the taxes that is paid in the same district exclusive \_\_\_\_\_ out propriotor taxes which is to be divided amongst the whole districts

Voted to raise five hundred dollars to be expended on the highways and town ways the year insuing at one dollar pr day for each man and sixty seven cents pr day for each pair of oxen and to work eight hours for a days work

Voted to raise fifty dollars to defray the necessary charges of the town the year insuing

Chose George Nickles, Nathan Wood, Peter Holbrook, George Sawyer, Joseph Grenlef, Nichols Kimball, Joseph Lander and James Bickford a school commity the insuing year

Voted to except a bridle road acrost the river at Joseph Grenlef two rods wide to ly one rod on each side the courses as follows began at Joseph Grenlefs hog pen now standing on the town road, run north five degrees east forty eight rods to the river and acrost the river the same course from thence east five degr north eight rods, to the town road on the notherly side of Sandy River as laid out by the selectmen and surveyed by, Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

Voted to except a bridle road acrost Sandy River from the town road on the northwest side of Sandy River into the town road on the southeasterly side of Sandy River, agreeable to the following surveyoy begining at a stake and stones standing on the southesterly side of the town road and on the line between Timothy T. Barns and Nethaniel Taylor, thence runing south thirty degrees east sixty polls to a stake and stone from thence south ten degrees east about fourteen poles to a stake and stones standing on the bank of Sandy River from thence south thirty degrees east acrost said river to a river ash tree marked thence south ten degrees west up said river about twelve rods to a large pine stump marked said stump being the corner between land now in the possession of John Pumroy and Stephen Williamson likewise from the last mentioned bounds

**Page 29**

#### **1799 Annuell Meeting**

bounds on the north west side of Sandy River up the same south twenty degrees west about twenty poles to a stake and stones standing near the mouth of a small gullie or brook from thence south seventy degrees east acrost said river to the before mentioned pine stump: including so much of said river, viz, about twenty poles on the north west side and about twelve on the south east side of said river; for the conveneny of crossing; from thence runing southeast viz continuing on or as near said line between said Pumroy and said Williamson as will best answer the purpose of said road until it stricks (strikes) the before mentioned town road to be two rods wide and to lay one rod on each side of the above said courses

Surveyed July 21 A.D. 1798

Attest Jonathan Williamson } Surveyor

A true record of the foregoing meeting

test James Waugh } Town Clerk

**Page 30**

#### **1799 Meeting 4 of June**

S) Kennebec ss to Royal Dutton Constable of the town of Starks  
In said County

Greeting

By vertue (virtue) of a warrant signed by Joseph North Daniel Coney and Nethaniell Dummmor Esqr justice of the peace and of the quorum (quorum) for said County of Kennebec and directed to the selectmen of the town of Starks

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massechusets to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the town of Starks and qualified to vote for representatives to meet at the dwelling house of Benjamin Blossoms in Starks on Tuesday the fourth day of June next at one o clock in the after noon to give in their votes for sum sutable (suitable) person to be Register of Deeds for the County of Kennebec

also the freeholders and other Inhabitants qualified by law to vote in town meetings to meet at the above said time and place to act on the following articles:

- 1ly To chose a moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly To see if the town will except a road from the town road on the easterly or notherly side of Lemons Stream to cros the stream below Joseph Lander Grist Mill and into the road on the other side of said stream as it is laid out and shall be laid befor the town on said day of meeting
- 3ly To see if the town will except a road from Samuelli Nyes to Joseph Taylors as it is laid out and shall be laid before the town at said meeting
- 4ly To see if the town will alter the road forom Samuelli Nyes house to cros Lemons Stream at the most convenient place to build a bridge over said stream near to George Sawyers line and when a bridge may be out of the way of the winter freshet also to transact any other business that shall be thought necessary and expedient when met hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to one of us subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting

Page 31

1799 Meeting 4 June

Given under our hands and seals at Starks this fifteenth day of May one thousand seven hundred and ninty nine

James Waugh	}	Selectmen
Timothy T. Barns	}	of
George Sawyer	}	Starks

Starks May 21 A. D. 1799 pursuant to the within warrant I have duley notified the Inhabitants of the town of Starks qualified as within mentioned to meet at the time and place and for the purposes within mentioned

}	Royal Dutton
}	Constable of Starks

A true copy attest James Waugh: Town Clerk

- 1ly Chose James Waugh and George Sawyer to count the votes of this meeting at a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Starks qualified by the constitution to vote for representatives holder at said Starks aforesaid on the fourth day of June A.D. 1799 the said Inhabitants brought in their votes for County Register and the same being counted and sorted James Waugh and George Sawyer who were chosen to count and sort the votes for that meeting it appeard the names of the persons votes for and the number of votes were as follows
  - for Henry Sewell Esqr nineteen votes
  - for Samuelli Colman two votes
- 2ly Pursuent to the foregoing warrant chose George Sawyer moderator to govern said meeting
- 2ly Voted to except a road acrost Lemons Stream below Joseph Landers Grist Mill from one town rode to the other town road as laid out by Thomas McKechnie as follows, viz, begining at the town road on the notherly of the stream run south fifty degrees west twelve rods to the stream and acrst the stream thence west to the road on the southerly side of the stream \_\_\_\_\_ rods said road four rods wide and to ly two rods each \_\_\_\_\_ said courses

Page 32

1799 Meeting 4 June

Voted to except a road from Samuelli Nyes born to Joseph Taylor as it is laid out by Thomas McKechnie as follows viz

Begining at the town road against Samuelli Nyes barn and run north twelve rods thence north twenty degrees west twenty eight rods from thence north three rods and from thence north twenty five degrees west forty rods and from thence north thirty five degrees west twenty rods and from thence north twenty

five degrees west forty rods and from thence north thirty degrees west eighty eight rods and from thence north twenty degrees east eight rods and from thence north forty five degrees west one hundred and sixty rods to be a bridle road two rods wide and to ly one rod on each side the above said courses: Thomas McKechnie dismissed the fourth article in the warrant  
Voted to dismiss Joseph Young from being tythingman this year insuing

A true record of the meeting  
tst James Waugh } Town Clerk

S) Kennebec ss. to Royal Dutton Constable of the town  
of Starks in said County

Greeting

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwelth of Massechusets to notify and warn the male inhabitants of the said town of Starks of twenty one years of age and upwards having a freehold estate within the Commonwealth of the annual income of ten dollers or any estate of the value of two hundred dollers to meet at the dwelling house of Stephen Williamson in Starks on Monday the seventh day of Aprilee ext at nine of the clock in the four noon to give in their votes for a governor lieutenant governors and senators and counselors for the County of Lincoln, Hancock, Washington and Kennebec agreeable to the Constitution of said Commonwealth; hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to one of us the subscribers on or before said day and time of meeting  
Given under our hands and seals at Starks thirteenth day of March A.D. 1800

James Waugh } Selectmen  
George Sawyer } of Starks

Starks March the 5 A.D. 1800 pursuant to the above warrant I have duly notified and warned the Inhabitants of said town qualified to as above expressed to meet at the time and place and for the purposes above mentioned

Royal Dutton } Constable of Starks

A true copy attest James Waugh } Town Clerk